

ASPIRA, Inc. OF NEW JERSEY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
390 BROAD STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07104 • 201-484-7554 • FAX 201-484-0184



NOEMI VELAZQUEZ
CHAIRPERSON

ROBERTO DEL RIOS M.S.W.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CARLOS J. ALMA

LOURDES ARROYO

HECTOR BONILLA

GENE CALDERON

ANTONIO CARDONA

WILLIAM CRUZ

MERCEDES DEL VALLE RANA, Ed.D.

MARYBEL HERNANDEZ

HECTOR ORTIZ

ANIBAL RAMOS

MARGARET ROSARIO-RIVERA

MIRVA RIVERA

IVETTE D. SANTIAGO-GREEN, ESQ.

ASPIRA, INC. OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING
MARCH 19, 1996

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Laureles
Carlos J. Alma, Marybel Hernandez, Hector Bonilla,
Hector Ortiz, Gene Calderon, Antonio Cardona,
Ivette D. Santiago-Green, Jorge Cruz, Noemi
Velazquez, Mercedes Del Valle-Rana, Anibal Ramos,
Yvonne Cruz

ABSENT:

Mirva Rivera

STAFF:

Roberto Del Rios

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Waiver of Notice

Everyone on the Board indicated that they were duly notified of the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes.

Carlos Alma moved to approve the minutes of the February 27th Board meeting, with the indicated changes. Gene Calderon second the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Note: Retreat Item for discussion. The issue on mainland recruitment for programs and college placement.

Noemi Velazquez requested that the new Development Officer attend the meeting to take minutes.

IV. Approval of the Agenda.

Carlos Alma moved to approve the Agenda. The motion was second by Hector Ortiz. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Chairperson's Report

Noemi Velazquez began her remarks on the success of the Annual Luncheon. She extended her gratitude to everyone who contributed to it's success.

Noemi presented the memorandum of agreement between ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey and the Friends of ASPIRA of Perth Amboy. The letter was discussed and the following concerns were raised.

- 1) The letter makes its difficult for others to help ASPIRA.
- 2) Questions about liability if fundraising takes place.
- 3) Are the Friends of ASPIRA, a legally binding group? The recommendation was made to have two Board members serve on this Ad Hoc Committee. Lourdes suggested feedback from a lawyer to see if it is legal to have two Board members initiate the development of ASPIRA.

Carlos recommended that the Board adopt a resolution to authorize the Friends of ASPIRA of Perth Amboy to begin fundraising.

It was suggested that Jorge Cruz and Ivonne Cruz serve as representative on the Friends of ASPIRA of Perth Amboy.

Phase two of the development of a new ASPIRA site will entail proposal writing. The Executive Director and and the Development officer will follow up on this area of responsibility.

Noemi informed the Board that Willie Cruz resigned as of March 19, 1996. He would like to continue to work on the New Initiative Sub Committee.

A reception in Jersey City will take place at the ASPIRA office in Jersey City. Roberto will investigate the availability of the President of Hudson Community College to confirm a date.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Roberto gave an account of meetings he attended and of upcoming meetings. These included:

- 1) Dept. of Human Services on Welfare Reform
- 2) Newark School District Community Conference on School Based Planning.
- 3) Meeting with Camden Center staff
- 4) Technical Assistance visit to ASPIRA of PA.
- 5) Training on Federal Programs March 27, 1996

There will be two tapings on Cable T.V. on April 16th and May 28th at 5:30 p.m. A total of 4 shows will be taped and aired during late spring and early summer. Shows that will air will highlight Bilingual Education, ASPIRA Alumni, Student leadership (hosted by Anibal), and ASPIRA Expansion.

Yvonne Cruz suggested for Viewpoint (TV 3)

Roberto will attend the annual United Way luncheon on March 29th. March 29th is also the of the Boricua 1st March in Washington D.C. Anibal Ramos informed the Board that approximately 75-100 students from Rutgers.

Statewide Latino Youth Leadership Retreat at Rutgers University - July 12 - July 14. Approximately 200 students will attend, 100 will be ASPIRANTES.

Roberto informed the Board that Migdalia Rodriguez has been appointed as the new Programs Director of the northern region.

Gloria Perez has submitted a proposal to the Prudential Foundation for a Summer Reading Camp.

Roberto informed the Board that the United Way of Essex and West Hudson has approved a \$56,000 grant to ASPIRA. This is a \$15,000 increase from the previous grant. However, the grant is restricted for program use.

The Financial Audit has not been completed. An extension was filed. Roger Masch needs to audit the program files, before the financial statement can be issued.

VII. Committee Reports

Development

- Luncheon - Last year \$18,000 profit
- This year approximately \$15,000 profit

There is a need to identify financial resources that will cover the upfront expenses to special events. Once sponsor are committed, these events will yield a greater margin of profit.

College students have been identified to volunteer their services to update the mailing list.

Cruise-Hector requested a date and need to make commitment. Discussion held around same of the problems foreseen (distance north - south, ticket selling, time). It was also discussed that ASPIRA consider sponsoring a Dance in the fall. After some discussion it was agreed that a Dance, held in the Terrace Ballroom in Newark will cost less for the agency and possible yield a greater margin of profit. Hector Bonilla will look into which band may be available.

New Initiatives

Mercedes will contact Willie Cruz and also chair the committee. (W.C. resigned).

Solicitations

El Clarin has been completed. Roberto is trying to have ETS print the newsletter for free. He is awaiting approval from ETS.

Personnel

Executive Director's Evaluation. Gene Calderon presented the Executive Director's evaluation instrument. He saw the needs for: 1) standard score to determine effectiveness; 2) include within by-laws; 3) Goals must be identified and agreed upon by Board members. 3-5 goals should be set by Executive Director; 4) Evaluation will be based on what was requested of him at time of interview.

It is the responsibility of the Personnel Committee to evaluate the performance of the Executive Director.

Hector Bonilla moved that the evaluation of the Executive Director will be conducted by interview questions posed to the Director when hired in accordance with interview at time of hire.

Jorge Cruz second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Programs

ASPIRA and other community based organizations will hold a recruitment activity at Rutgers-Newark. Transportation will not be provided. 100 students from ASPIRA will attend. 225 students are expected to attend.

VIII. Old Business

Hector presented the possibility of a possible fundraiser with Internal Affairs of New Jersey.

Resolution for Friends of ASPIRA of Perth Amboy.

Hector Bonilla moved to accept the resolution presented to authorize the Friends of ASPIRA of Perth Amboy to begin fundraising. Motion was seconded by Carlos Alma. 9 in favor, 0 against, and 2 abstentions.

Anibal Ramos missed the luncheon. Special thanks for his work with Meadowlands/New Jersey Nets fundraiser.

VIX. New Business

Alternative School

Mercedes, Noemi and Mirva presented a Concept Paper to members for an Alternative School. Noemi has attempted to reach Dr. Hall, Superintendent of Newark Schools, without any success. Lourdes suggested a formal letter requesting a meeting for follow-up on this program. Letter should say "upon her request", ... ASPIRA is interested in submitting a Concept paper to be considered for an Alternative School site...

Roberto will draft letter and submit before Friday, March 22.

The Puerto Rican Day Parade will be held on August 11, 1996 in Newark.

Noemi attended the Annual Boriquen Lions breakfast in Jersey City. The Mayor of Jersey City was present and mentioned that he has helped ASPIRA in Jersey City.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.